

Dear Co-Chair Winfield, Co-Chair Stafstrom, Vice Chair Flexer, Vice Chair Blumenthal, Ranking Member Kissel, Ranking Member Fishbein, and all members of the Judiciary Committee:

I find this bill (H.B. 5416) offensive and to be in direct violation of the second amendment of the United States Constitution and Article 1, Section 15 of the Connecticut Constitution. This bill will not deter criminals, while only punishing law abiding gun owners. Your constituents have the right to be self-reliant when it comes to defense of self and family, because seconds matter when the police are minutes away.

In 2021 alone, tens of thousands of Connecticut residents became new permit holders. Background checks for firearm purchases soared to record setting numbers. The Governor's proposals demonstrate that he is out of touch with the people of Connecticut and woefully disconnected from his own failed policies which have resulted in the demand for more access to self-defense.

I ask that the committee not move forward with H.B. 5416.

Sincerely,

Michael R. DeRosa

Wallingford